



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee; Public Meeting

AGENCY: Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC)

ACTION: Notice of open meeting

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of a meeting via web conference call of the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee (Committee). The web conference calls are open to the public, and participants can dial in to the calls. Participants who choose to use the web conferencing feature in addition to the audio will be able to view the presentations as they are being given.

DATES: Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting are asked to register in advance by Wednesday, December 16, 2015.

The meeting will be held Thursday, December 17, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. EDT. These times and the agenda topics described below are subject to change. Refer to the web page listed below for the most up-to-date meeting agenda.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via web conference call. Register by contacting Gonzalo Cid at gonzalo.cid@noaa.gov or 301-713-7278. Webinar and teleconference capacity may be limited.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lauren Wenzel, Acting Designated Federal Officer, MPA FAC, National Marine Protected Areas Center, 1305 East West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. (Phone: 301-713-7265, Fax: 301-713-3110); email: lauren.wenzel@noaa.gov; or visit the National MPA Center Web site at <http://www.marineprotectedareas.noaa.gov>).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee, composed of external, knowledgeable representatives of stakeholder groups, was established by the Department of Commerce (DOC) to provide advice to the Secretaries of Commerce and the Interior on

implementation of Section 4 of Executive Order 13158, on marine protected areas.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The focus of the Committee's meeting is an update from the Subcommittees and Working Groups on their progress in addressing the Committee charge, and Committee discussion. Reports will include: Ecological Connectivity; External Financing for MPAs; and working toward an Arctic Marine Protected Areas Network. The Committee will also hear updates from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Department of the Interior. The agenda is subject to change. The latest version will be posted at <http://www.marineprotectedareas.noaa.gov>.

Dated: November 12, 2015.
John Armor,
Acting Director,
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries,
National Ocean Service,
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
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